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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/681,393	10/08/2003	Marko H. Kokko	KOLS.055PA	7449

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EXAMINER

WORJLOH, JALATEE

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3621

DATE MAILED: 08/15/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/681,393

Applicant(s)

KOKKO, MARKO H.

Examiner

Jalatee Worjloh

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 May 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3, 5, 6, 8-16 and 18-36 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3, 5, 6, 8-16, 18-36 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. This Office Action is responsive to the amendment filed 05/22/2006, in which claims 1 and 15 were amended and claims 21-36 added.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments with respect to all claims have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.
3. Claims 1-3, 5, 6, 8-16, 18-36 have been examined.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1-3, 5, 8, 10, 14-16, 18- 22, 24-26, and 29- 31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Publication No. 2001/0029496 to Otto et al. in view of US Publication No. 2005/0132065 to Zhou.

Referring to claim 1, Otto et al. disclose requesting a virtual identifier (i.e. anonymous IP address) by means of the first user equipment (see paragraph [0045] – proxy server receives a request from client computer to establish a connection for anonymous access to network), establishing the virtual identifier for the first user equipment in at least one of the following: the first user equipment and the service network (see paragraph [0045] – proxy server can establish information to provide an anonymous identity for the client computer & [0047] proxy server can

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disguise the user's IP address) and using the virtual identifier of the first user equipment for communication between the first and the second user equipment (paragraph [0045] -any information being transferred between client computer and any other web site on network is processed through proxy server). Otto et al. do not expressly disclose linking the virtual identifier of the first user equipment to the first characteristic identifier of the first user equipment. Zhou discloses linking the virtual identifier (i.e. IP address) of the first user equipment to the first characteristic identifier (i.e. domain name) of the first user equipment (see paragraph [0032] – the virtual domain name for the domain is mapped to virtual IP address). At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the method disclose by Otto et al. to include the step of disclose linking the virtual identifier of the first user equipment to the first characteristic identifier of the first user equipment. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because it provides means for legitimate computing devices to obtain virtual identifiers without triggering security measures employed by other computing devices (see paragraphs [0022] & [0014] of Zhou).

Referring to claim 2, Otto et al. disclose requesting the virtual identifier from the service network (i.e. proxy server), see claim 1 above.

Referring to claim 3, Otto et al. disclose requesting multiple virtual identifiers from the service network (see paragraph [0048] – proxy server allow the user to adopt one or more anonymous identities while accessing the network).

Referring to claim 5, Otto et al. disclose a set of virtual identifiers (see paragraph [0048] – proxy server allow the user to adopt one or more anonymous identities). Otto et al. do not one

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or more of which are linked to the first characteristic identifier of the first user equipment. Zhou discloses one or more of which are linked to the first characteristic identifier of the first user equipment (see paragraph [0032] – the virtual domain name for the domain is mapped to virtual IP address). At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the method disclose by Otto et al. to include one or more of which are linked to the first characteristic identifier of the first user equipment. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because it provides means for legitimate computing devices to obtain virtual identifiers without triggering security measures employed by other computing devices (see paragraphs [0022] & [0014] of Zhou).

Referring to claim 6, Otto et al. disclose selecting, in the service network, the virtual identifier to be used for communication between the first and the second user equipment (see claim 3 above).

Referring to claim 8, Otto et al. disclose transmitting to the service network a request for establishing a communications connection between the first and the second user equipment, the request comprising the virtual identifier of the first user equipment (see paragraph [0045]).

Referring to claim 10, Otto et al. disclose transmitting a request (see claim 8 above). Otto et al. do not expressly disclose using an electronic mail server service for transmitting the request. Zhou discloses using an electronic mail server service for transmitting the request (see paragraphs [0018] & [0030]). At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the method of Otto et al. to use an electronic mail server service for transmitting the request. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because transmission of electronic mail message is fast, flexible and reliable.

Referring to claim 14, Otto et al. disclose virtual identifier (see claim 1 above). Otto et al. do not expressly disclose predetermining one or more user equipment that have the right to use the virtual identifier. Zhou discloses predetermining one or more user equipment that have the right to use the virtual identifier (see paragraph [0032] – the virtual domain includes configured information for the domain including a list of users of the virtual domain). At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the method disclose by Otto et al. to include predetermining one or more user equipment that have the right to use the virtual identifier. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because it provides means for legitimate computing devices to obtain virtual identifiers without triggering security measures employed by other computing devices (see paragraphs [0022] & [0014] of Zhou).

Claims 15, 16, 18-20 are arrangements configured to perform the steps of method claims 1-3, 5 and 8 above; therefore, these claims are rejected on the same rationale as claims 1-3, 5 and 8 above.

Referring to claim 21, Otto et al. disclose establish the virtual identifier for the first user equipment in at least one of the following: the first user equipment and the service network (see paragraph [0045] – proxy server can establish information to provide an anonymous identity for the client computer & [0047] proxy server can disguise the user's IP address) and use the virtual identifier of the first user equipment for communication between the first and the second user equipment (paragraph [0045] -any information being transferred between client computer and any other web site on network is processed through proxy server). Otto et al. do not expressly

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disclose linking the virtual identifier of the first user equipment to the first characteristic identifier of the first user equipment. Zhou discloses linking the virtual identifier (i.e. IP address) of the first user equipment to the first characteristic identifier (i.e. domain name) of the first user equipment (see paragraph [0032] – the virtual domain name for the domain is mapped to virtual IP address). At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the equipment disclose by Otto et al. to include the link the virtual identifier of the first user equipment to the first characteristic identifier of the first user equipment. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because it provides means for legitimate computing devices to obtain virtual identifiers without triggering security measures employed by other computing devices (see paragraphs [0022] & [0014] of Zhou).

Referring to claim 22, Otto et al. disclose requesting the virtual identifier from the service network (i.e. proxy server), see claim 21 above.

Referring to claim 24, Otto et al. disclose establishing the virtual identifier for the first user equipment in at least one of the following: the first user equipment and the service network (see paragraph [0045] – proxy server can establish information to provide an anonymous identity for the client computer & [0047] proxy server can disguise the user's IP address) and using the virtual identifier of the first user equipment for communication between the first and the second user equipment (paragraph [0045] -any information being transferred between client computer and any other web site on network is processed through proxy server). Otto et al. do not expressly disclose linking the virtual identifier of the first user equipment to the first characteristic identifier of the first user equipment. Zhou discloses linking the virtual identifier

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(i.e. IP address) of the first user equipment to the first characteristic identifier (i.e. domain name) of the first user equipment (see paragraph [0032] – the virtual domain name for the domain is mapped to virtual IP address). At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the method disclose by Otto et al. to include the step of disclose linking the virtual identifier of the first user equipment to the first characteristic identifier of the first user equipment. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because it provides means for legitimate computing devices to obtain virtual identifiers without triggering security measures employed by other computing devices (see paragraphs [0022] & [0014] of Zhou).

Referring to claim 25, Otto et al. disclose wherein the virtual identifier to be used for communication between the first and the second user equipment is selected in the service network (see claim 24 above).

Referring to claim 26, Otto et al. disclose transmitting to the service network a request for establishing a communications connection between the first and the second user equipment, the request comprising the virtual identifier of the first user equipment (see paragraph [0045]).

Claim 31 is a server configured to perform the steps of claim 21 above; therefore, claim 31 is rejected on the same rationale as claim 21 above.

Claim 34 is rejected on the same rationale as claim 21 above.

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6. Claims 9, 11, 12, 23, 27, and 33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Otto et al. and Zhou as applied to claims 8, 21, 24 and 31 above, and further in view of WO 00/12364 to Lumme et al.

Referring to claim 9, Otto et al. disclose transmitting the request for establishing the communications connection between the first and the second user equipment (see claim 8 above). Otto et al. do not expressly disclose using a short message service for transmitting the request. Lumme et al. disclose using a short message service for transmitting the request (see abstract). At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the method disclose by Otto et al. to use short message service for transmitting the request. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because it quickly transmits information from a mobile phone to a recipient.

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Referring to claim 11, Otto et al. disclose first and second users (see claim 8 above). Otto et al. do not expressly disclose transmitting the request for establishing the communications connection between the first and the second equipment from the second user equipment. Lumme et al. disclose transmitting the request for establishing the communications between the first and the second equipment from the second user equipment (see claim 3). At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the method disclose by Otto et al. to include the step of transmitting the request for establishing the communications between the first and the second equipment from the second user equipment. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because it provides a mechanism for both parties to communicate with each other.

Referring to claim 12, Otto et al. disclose receiving, in the first user equipment virtual identifier (see claim 1 above). Otto et al. do not expressly disclose receiving information about the use of the virtual identifier of the first user equipment. However, this difference is only found in the nonfunctional descriptive material and is not functionally involved in the steps recited. The receiving step would be performed the same regardless of the data. Thus, this descriptive material will not distinguish the claimed invention from the prior art in terms of patentability, see *In re Gulack*, 703 F.2d 1381, 1385, 217 USPQ 401, 404 (Fed. Cir. 1983); *In re Lowry*, 32 F.3d 1579, 32 USPQ2d 1031 (Fed. Cir. 1994). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to receive any type of data because such data does not functionally elate to the steps in the method claimed and because the subjective interpretation of the data does not patentably distinguish the claimed invention.

Claim 23 is rejected on the same rationale as claim 12 above.

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Claim 27 is rejected on the same rationale as claim 12 above.

Claim 33 is rejected on the same rationale as claim 9 above.

7. Claims 13, 28, 32 and 35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Otto et al. and Zhou as applied to claims 1, 24, 31, 34 respectively above, and further in view of US Patent No. 6968385 to Gilbert.

Referring to claim 13, Otto et al. disclose the virtual identifier (see claim 1 above). Otto et al. do not expressly disclose predetermining a given validity period during which the virtual identifier is valid. Gilbert discloses predetermining a given validity period during which the identifier (i.e. IP address) is valid (see col. 6, lines 27-30 – the table includes the IP address and their expiration period). At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the method disclose by Otto et al. to include the step of predetermining a given validity period during which the virtual identifier is valid. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because it prevents unauthorized usage of the system.

Claim 28 is rejected on the same rationale as claim 13 above.

Referring to claim 32, Otto et al. disclose virtual identifiers (see claim 31 above). Otto et al. do not expressly disclose a database of available virtual identifiers. Gilbert discloses a database of identifiers, i.e. IP address (see col. 2, lines 42-45). At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the server disclose by Otto et al. to include a database of available virtual identifiers. One of ordinary skill

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in the art would have been motivated to do this because a database organizes data for easy retrieval.

Referring to claim 35, Otto et al. disclose virtual identifier (see claim 34 above). Otto et al. do not expressly disclose the server is configured to compare a virtual identifier received from the user equipment or the second user equipment with characteristic identifiers linked to virtual identifiers in a database of the server for enabling establishing a connection between the first user equipment and the second user equipment. Gilbert discloses a server is configured to compare a virtual identifier received from the user equipment or the second user equipment with characteristic identifiers linked to virtual identifiers in a database of the server for enabling establishing a connection between the first user equipment and the second user equipment (see col. 2, lines 62-67). At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the server disclose by Otto et al. to compare a virtual identifier received from the user equipment or the second user equipment with characteristic identifiers linked to virtual identifiers in a database of the server for enabling establishing a connection between the first user equipment and the second user equipment. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because it ensures that the user access has not expired (see col. 2, lines 62-67 of Gilbert).

8. Claim 30 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Otto et al. and Zhou in view of Lumme et al.

Referring to claim 30, Otto et al. disclose establishing a connection between the first user equipment and the second user equipment when a virtual identifier established for the first user equipment in at least one of the following: the first user equipment and the service network (see

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paragraph [0045] – proxy server can establish information to provide an anonymous identity for the client computer; [0047] proxy server can disguise the user's IP address & paragraph [0045] - any information being transferred between client computer and any other web site on network is processed through proxy server). Otto et al. do not expressly disclose linked to the first characteristic identifier of the first user equipment is used by the second user equipment for establishing a connection to the first user equipment. Zhou discloses linking the virtual identifier (i.e. IP address) of the first user equipment to the first characteristic identifier (i.e. domain name) of the first user equipment (see paragraph [0032] – the virtual domain name for the domain is mapped to virtual IP address). Lumme et al. disclose linked to the first characteristic identifier of the first user equipment is used by the second user equipment for establishing a connection to the first user equipment (see claim 3). At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the service disclose by Otto et al. to use the link to the first characteristic identifier of the first user equipment by the second user equipment for establishing a connection to the first user equipment. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because it provides a mechanism for both parties to communicate with each other.

9. Claim 36 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Otto et al. and Zhou in view of Gilbert.

Otto et al. disclose a first user equipment having a first characteristic identifier, a second user equipment having as second characteristic identifier, the service network connecting the first and the second user equipment one or more of the virtual identifiers established for the user equipment in at least one of the following the first user equipment and the service network (see

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claim 31 above). Otto et al. do not expressly disclose one or more identifiers are linked to the respective characteristic identifiers of the user equipment are stored and linked to the respective characteristic identifiers of the user equipment, and where virtual identifiers received from the first user equipment or second user equipment are compared with the characteristic identifiers linked to the virtual identifiers for enabling the use of the virtual identifiers for communication between the first and the second user equipment. Zhou discloses linking the virtual identifier (i.e. IP address) of the first user equipment to the first characteristic identifier (i.e. domain name) of the first user equipment (see paragraph [0032] – the virtual domain name for the domain is mapped to virtual IP address). Gilbert discloses a database of identifiers, i.e. IP address (see col. 2, lines 42-45) and comparing a virtual identifier received from the user equipment or the second user equipment with characteristic identifiers linked to virtual identifiers in a database of the server for enabling establishing a connection between the first user equipment and the second user equipment (see col. 2, lines 62-67). At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify Otto et al. to include one or more identifiers are linked to the respective characteristic identifiers of the user equipment are stored and linked to the respective characteristic identifiers of the user equipment, and where virtual identifiers received from the first user equipment or second user equipment are compared with the characteristic identifiers linked to the virtual identifiers for enabling the use of the virtual identifiers for communication between the first and the second user equipment. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because a database organizes data for easy retrieval.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

- “The Electronic Journal for Sun users Since 1988” by Mclaughlin discusses new visual representations that allows users apply one or more aliases to devices that have multiple network interfaces.
- US Patent No. 7020685 to Chen et al. discloses method and apparatus for providing Internet content to short message service wireless devices.
- US Patent No. 7069249 to Stolfo et al. discloses proxy IP addresses.

10. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a).

Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

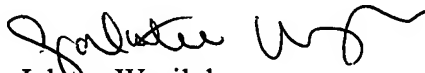
A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jalatee Worjloh whose telephone number is (571) 272-6714. The examiner can normally be reached on Mondays-Thursdays 8:30 - 7:00.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James Trammell can be reached on (571) 272-6712. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300 for Regular/After Final Actions and 571-273-6714 for Non-Official/Draft.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


Jalatee Worjloh
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 3621

August 2, 2006